

**San Francisco Estuary Project**

2101 Webster St., Ste. 500
Oakland, CA 94612
(510) 286-0460
Fax (510) 286-0928

COORDINATION OF EFFORTS TO PROMOTE THE CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION OF SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA IN-CHANNEL ISLANDS

WHEREAS, natural Delta in-channel islands are an important fish and wildlife habitat resource, and provide habitat for many special status species;

WHEREAS, many Delta in-channel islands provide for other valuable functions such as recreational, aesthetic and levee protection benefits;

WHEREAS, many Delta in-channel islands are diminishing in both acreage and numbers at an unacceptably high rate;

WHEREAS, it appears that it is the unanimous desire of all interests that the Delta would benefit ecologically from the conservation and restoration of the in-channel islands;

WHEREAS, the geographic scope of this agreement has been set as the legal Delta;

WHEREAS, all interests acknowledge that there are other beneficial uses of the Delta, such as water conveyance and recreation, it is the desire of all interests that Delta in-channel islands be conserved and restored to acreage and sites that maximize their ecological benefits, while considering other beneficial uses;

THEREFORE, parties signatory to this agreement [may consist of agencies, non-governmental organizations, governmental bodies, individuals/landowners, and others] agree to work together to reach and implement the goal of halting the decline and degradation of, and working toward the restoration of Delta in-channel islands.

It is envisioned that this goal would be furthered by efforts to promote the following objectives:

Identify conservation and restoration techniques appropriate to site conditions and resource needs;

Identify sites/locales where objectives differ;

Identify work windows (periods to minimize adverse impacts of restoration work activities);

Identify concerns and strategies for surface elevation (relationship to sea-level) objectives;

Identify vegetation objectives;

Address mitigation concerns with respect to conservation/restoration activities, multiple resource value considerations, and the issue of projects serving as mitigation banks for other projects;

Identify incentive strategies for voluntary implementation;

Identify means to improve regulatory and permitting processes to facilitate achievement of resource objectives;

Identify potential funding and in-lieu resources to maximize partnerships/collaboration, and;

Develop a tool such as a channel islands restoration and management manual supportive of the ecosystem functions.

This agreement is not in any way binding. Signatories may enter without constraint and remove themselves by a simple letter noting such to the San Francisco Estuary Project (SFEP). It is hoped those parties committed to collaborative efforts will participate appropriately.

SIGNATORIES

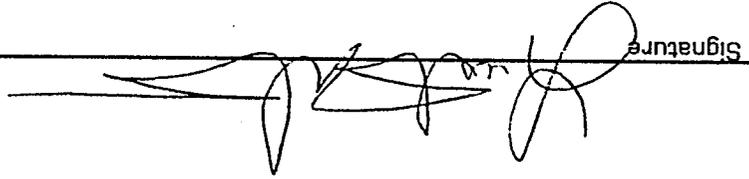
Signature over printed name/date.

COORDINATION OF EFFORTS TO PROMOTE THE CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION OF SACRAMENTO - SAN JOAQUIN DELTA IN-CHANNEL ISLANDS

SIGNATORIES

Lester A. Snow
Name (Please Print)

CALFED Bay-Delta Program
Organization/Agency



Signature

Executive Director
Title

12-20-96
Date